

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY, AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Daniel Zolnikov, on March 27, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Daniel Zolnikov, Chair (R)
Rep. Denise Hayman, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Derek Skees, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Nate McConnell (D)
Rep. James O'Hara (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Zac Perry (D)
Rep. Alan Redfield (R)
Rep. Adam Rosendale (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Adam Hertz (R)
Rep. Shane A. Morigeau (D)
Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sydney Kessel, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 624, 3/21/2017; HB 625, 3/21/2017

Executive Action: HB 624, HB 625, HB 633, HB 604, SB 7, SB 11 & SB 12

HEARING ON HB 633

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Jeff Essmann (R), HD 54, opened the hearing on HB 633, Provide for optional local interstate pipeline impact fee.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:39 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
00:08:19 Bob Story, Montana Tax Payers Association (MonTax)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:09:13 Rep. McConnell
00:09:42 Harold Blattie, MACo
00:10:55 Rep. Olsen
00:11:50 Rep. Essmann
00:12:24 Rep. Olsen
00:12:44 Rep. Essmann
00:13:05 Vice Chair Hayman
00:14:09 Harold Blattie, MACo
00:15:44 Vice Chair Hayman
00:15:55 Harold Blattie, MACo
00:16:28 Vice Chair Hayman
00:16:55 Harold Blattie, MACo
00:17:40 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
00:18:02 Rep. Essmann
00:18:10 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
00:18:23 Rep. Essmann
00:18:28 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
00:18:59 Rep. Essmann
00:19:46 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
00:20:09 Rep. Essmann
00:20:51 Rep. Redfield
00:21:03 Rep. Essmann

Closing by Sponsor:

00:21:23 Rep. Essmann

00:23:00 Chair Zolnikov relinquishes Chair to Rep. Olsen

HEARING ON HB 624

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:24:43 Rep. Janet Ellis (D), HD 81, opened the hearing on HB 624, Establishing a coal transition working group.

Proponents' Testimony:

Darf Johnson, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:37:39 Rep. Redfield
00:38:03 Rep. Ellis
00:39:01 Rep. Redfield
00:39:16 Rep. Ellis
00:40:03 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy
00:40:41 Darf Johnson, MEIC

Closing by Sponsor:

00:41:13 Rep. Ellis

HEARING ON HB 625

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:42:47 Rep. Janet Ellis (D), HD 81, opened the hearing on HB 625, Requiring an owner of a coal-fired generating unit to provide a bond.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:50:41 Darf Johnson, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

[EXHIBIT\(feh63a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh63a02\)](#)

00:56:13 Adam Haight, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
00:57:39 Neil Ullam, Montana Conservation Voters
01:00:22 Tucker Finley, Montana Research Interest Group

Opponents' Testimony:

01:01:00 John Metropolous, Talen Montana

Informational Testimony:

01:03:19 Jenny Chambers, Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:03:44 Rep. Zolnikov
01:04:26 Rep. Ellis
01:04:57 Rep. McConnell
01:05:38 Adam Haight, NPRC
01:06:04 Rep. McConnell
01:07:00 Adam Haight, NPRC
01:07:37 Rep. McConnell
01:08:46 Jenny Chambers, DEQ
01:08:56 Rep. Zolnikov

01:10:28 Jenny Chambers, DEQ
01:11:09 Rep. Zolnikov
01:11:46 Jenny Chambers, DEQ
01:12:49 Vice Chair Hayman
01:13:19 Jenny Chambers, DEQ
01:14:01 Vice Chair Hayman
01:14:23 Jenny Chambers, DEQ
01:15:22 Vice Chair Skees
01:15:59 John Metropolous, Talen Montana
01:16:47 Vice Chair Skees
01:19:24 Jenny Chambers, DEQ
01:19:58 Rep. McConnell
01:21:05 Derf Johnson, MEIC
01:22:35 Rep. Rosendale
01:23:20 Rep. Zolnikov
01:24:20 Jenny Chambers, DEQ
01:24:55 Rep. Zolnikov
01:25:25 Jenny Chambers, DEQ
01:26:00 Vice Chair Hayman
01:26:57 Jenny Chambers, DEQ
01:28:10 Vice Chair Skees
01:28:23 Derf Johnson, MEIC
01:28:31 Vice Chair Skees
01:28:55 Derf Johnson, MEIC
01:29:28 Vice Chair Skees
01:29:36 Derf Johnson, MEIC
01:30:16 Rep. Rosendale
01:30:38 Rep. Ellis
01:30:56 Rep. Rosendale
01:31:31 Rep. Ellis
01:32:23 Rep. Rosendale
01:32:49 John Metropolous, Talen Montana
01:34:11 Rep. Rosendale
01:34:37 John Metropolous, Talen Montana
01:35:29 Chair Olsen
01:36:09 John Metropolous, Talen Montana
01:36:39 Chair Olsen
01:37:33 John Metropolous, Talen Montana

Closing by Sponsor:

01:38:42 Rep. Ellis

01:41:19 Chair Zolnikov resumes Chair

01:42:03 Recess
02:02:08 Reconvened

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 60

02:02:44 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **HB 60 BE TABLED.**

Discussion:

02:03:00 Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Service Division (LSD)

02:03:19 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-0 by voice vote. Rep. A. Knudsen and Rep. Olsen voted by proxy. Rep. A. Hertz was excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 604

02:04:16 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **HB 604 DO PASS.**

02:05:18 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 604 BE AMENDED.**

[**EXHIBIT**](#)(feh63a03)

Discussion:

02:05:32 Sonja Nowakowski, LSD

02:06:47 Chair Zolnikov

02:07:04 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-0 by voice vote. Rep. A. Knudsen and Rep. Olsen voted by proxy. Rep. A. Hertz was excused.

02:07:33 **Motion:** Rep. Zolnikov moved that **HB 604 BE AMENDED.**

[**EXHIBIT**](#)(feh63a04)

Discussion:

02:07:46 Sonja Nowakowski, LSD

02:07:59 Chair Zolnikov

02:08:18 Tom Butler, Montana Highway Patrol, MHP

02:09:03 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-0 by voice vote. Rep. A. Knudsen and Rep. Olsen voted by proxy. Rep. A. Hertz was excused.

02:09:26 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **HB 604 BE AMENDED.**

[**EXHIBIT**](#)(feh63a05)

Discussion:

02:09:48 Sonja Nowakowski, LSD

02:10:15 Rep. C. Knudsen

02:10:21 Vice Chair Skees

02:11:05 Chair Zolnikov

02:11:22 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-0 by voice vote. Rep. A. Knudsen and Rep. Olsen voted by proxy. Rep. A. Hertz was excused.

02:11:46 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **HB 604 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

02:12:01 Rep. McConnell
02:12:16 Rep. Morigeau
02:12:45 Chair Zolnikov
02:13:14 Rep. Morigeau
02:13:23 Chair Zolnikov

02:13:46 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-0 by voice vote. Rep. A. Knudsen and Rep. Olsen voted by proxy. Rep. A. Hertz was excused.

02:14:14 Vice Chair Hayman
02:14:25 Chair Zolnikov

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 624

02:14:53 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **HB 624 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

02:15:15 Chair Zolnikov

02:15:30 **Motion:** Rep. Hayman moved that **HB 624 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(feh63a06\)](#)

Discussion:

02:15:46 Sonja Nowakowski, LSD

02:16:24 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-0 by voice vote. Rep. A. Knudsen voted by proxy. Rep. A. Hertz was excused.

02:17:08 Rep. Redfield
02:17:37 Vice Chair Hayman

02:18:09 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Skees made a substitute motion that **HB 624 BE TABLED.** Substitute Motion carried 8-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hayman, Rep. McConnell, Rep. Morigeau, Rep. Olsen, Rep. Perry and Rep. Stewart-Peregoy voting no. Rep. A. Knudsen and Rep. Olsen voted by proxy. Rep. A. Hertz was excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 625

02:19:33 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **HB 625 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

02:19:47 Vice Chair Skees
02:20:14 Rep. Morigeau
02:20:41 Sonja Nowakowski, LSD
02:20:49 Vice Chair Hayman

02:21:58 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Skees made a substitute motion that **HB 625 BE TABLED.** Substitute Motion carried 8-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep.

Hayman, Rep. McConnell, Rep. Morigeau, Rep. Olsen, Rep. Perry and Rep. Stewart-Peregoy voting no. Rep. A. Knudsen and Rep. Olsen voted by proxy. Rep. A. Hertz was excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 633

02:23:08 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **HB 633 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

02:23:19 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy

02:26:51 Rep. Custer

02:28:10 Rep. Redfield

02:28:55 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hayman, Rep. McConnell, Rep. Morigeau, Rep. Olsen, Rep. Perry and Rep. Stewart-Peregoy voting no. Rep. A. Knudsen and Rep. Olsen voted by proxy. Rep. A. Hertz was excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 7

02:29:53 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **SJ 7 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

02:30:06 Rep. McConnell

02:31:35 Chair Zolnikov

02:32:11 Vice Chair Hayman

02:33:07 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Bishop, Rep. Hayman, Rep. McConnell, Rep. Morigeau, Rep. Olsen, Rep. Perry and Rep. Stewart-Peregoy voting no. Rep. A. Knudsen and Rep. Olsen voted by proxy. Rep. A. Hertz was excused. Rep. Redfield will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 02:35:36

Sydney Kessel, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh63aad.pdf](#))